Attorney Docket No. 10551/218 Application Ser. No. 09/934,541

REMARKS

Claims 3-142 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 2 are hereby cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 3-142 have been added to more clearly define the scope of the invention. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1 and 2 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being unpatentable over Mandell et al., US Patent No. 4,799,260. Claims 1 and 2 are cancelled and therefore the rejection of those claims is moot. Prompt and favorable examination on the merits is earnestly solicited.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 11-0600. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at 202-220-4393 to discuss any matter regarding this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 6, 2002

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